

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 10337 111001Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
ACDA-12 IO-13 /101 W
-----068896 111739Z /41

R 110954Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1534
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 10337

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: UR, UK, PEPR
SUBJECT: PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SOVIET REACTION TO SIR
CAMERON'S STATEMENTS IN CHINA

SUMMARY: SOVIET PRESS IS DENOUNCING CAMERON'S ANTI-SOVIET
REMARK AND INDIRECTLY CRITICIZING OFFICIAL BRITISH
REACTION TO IT. SOVIET MFA HAS CALLED IN UK AMBASSADOR
TO COMPLAIN. UK AMBASSADOR HAS URGED LONDON NOT TO OVER-
PLAY SOVIET REACTION AND TO LET THE ISSUE DIE. END
SUMMARY.

1. MAY 2 SIGNED COMMENTARY IN PRAVDA (ALSO CARRIED ON
ENGLISH LANGUAGE TASS TD INSURE WIDER READERSHIP ABROAD)
CRITICIZES CAMERON'S "COMMON ENEMY" STATEMENT MADE IN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 10337 111001Z

CHINA. ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY CALLING FOR AN "EXPLANATION"
FROM THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AFTER OBSERVING THAT CAMERON
"REPRESENTS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT" AND HAS MADE
"INCENDIARY SPEECHES WHOSE NATURE IS NOT IN KEEPING WITH
SOVIET-BRITISH RELATIONS." MAY 2 ENGLISH LANGUAGE TASS
ITEM DATELINED LONDON SELECTIVELY DRAWS ON PARLIAMENTARY
SPEECHES CRITICAL OF CAMERON TO ALLEGE THAT "A STORM OF

INDIGNATION AND PROTESTS IN BRITISH POLITICAL AND PUBLIC CIRCLES" HAS BEEN RAISED BY CAMERON'S "PROVOCATIVE, INCITING STATEMENT." ARTICLE CHARGES FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN ATTEMPTED TO "SMOOTH OVER" CAMERON'S REMARK BY MAINTAINING THAT IT SHOULD BE VIEWED IN CONTEXT OF IMPROVING ANGLO-CHINESE RELATIONS AND NOT DAMAGING ANGLO-SOVIET RELATIONS.

2. DN MAY 5, RECENTLY ARRIVED BRITISH AMBASSADOR KEEBLE PAID A COURTESY CALL ON DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER KORNIYENKO. KEEBLE EXPECTED KORNIYENKO TO RAISE THE ISSUE OF CAMERON'S REMARK. KORNIYENKO DID NOT, DESPITE AMPLE OPPORTUNITY. INSTEAD, ON MAY 6, KEEBLE WAS CALLED IN BY MFA'S CHIEF, SECOND EUROPEAN DEPT., SUSLOV WHO READ AN "ORAL STATEMENT" TO KEEBLE TERMING CAMERON'S REMARK "HOSTILE" TO THE SOVIET UNION AND "PROVOCATIVE IN CHARACTER." NOT ONLY WAS THE SUBSTANCE OF THE STATEMENTS NOT DISAVOWED BY OFFICIALS IN LONDON, SUSLOV CONTINUED, BUT ATTEMPTS WERE EVEN MADE TO JUSTIFY THEM. SUSLOV CONCLUDED HIS "ORAL STATEMENT" BY STATING THAT THIS CANNOT BUT HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON ANGLO-SOVIET RELATIONS.

3. KEEBLE RESPONDED THAT HE HAS NOT YET SEEN THE EXACT CONTENT OF CAMERON'S REMARKS. HE REVIEWED CALLAGHAN'S STATEMENT THAT CAMERON'S REMARKS REPRESENT CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 10337 111001Z

NO CHANGE IN THE BRITISH ATTITUDE TOWARD THE SOVIET UNION. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO FAVOR GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. SUSLOV THEN COMPLAINED ABOUT BRITISH DEFENSE SECRETARY MULLEY'S DEFENSE OF CAMERON. HE SAID THAT THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP TAKES THE CAMERON AFFAIR VERY SERIOUSLY AND THAT HE (SUSLOV) WAS MAKING THE DEMARCHE TO KEEBLE ONLY BECAUSE OF THE ABSENCE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S LEADERSHIP.

4. KEEBLE SAID HE THOUGHT THAT KORNIYENKO WOULD HAVE RAISED THE ISSUE MAY 5 IF THE SOVIETS REALLY ATTACHED HIGH IMPORTANCE TO IT. BUT, THE SOVIETS PROBABLY CONCLUDED THAT CAMERON'S STATEMENTS REQUIRED SOME KIND OF FORMAL SOVIET REACTION; HENCE, SUSLOV'S PROTEST. KEEBLE ADVISED LONDON NOT TO REACT TO SUSLOV'S DEMARCHE, AND, IN EFFECT, TO LET THE ISSUE DIE.

5. COMMENT: IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE SOVIETS ARE AS IRKED AT THE OFFICIAL BRITISH POSITION ON CAMERON'S REMARKS AS THEY ARE ABOUT THE REMARKS THEMSELVES. TOON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, SPEECHES, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW10337
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780200-0989
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780569/aaaacgws.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1a1a8ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2721384
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SOVIET REACTION TO SIR CAMERON'S STATEMENTS IN CHINA SUMMARY: SOVIET PRESS IS DENOUNCING CAMERON'S ANT
TAGS: PEPR, SOPN, MPOL, UR, UK, (CAMERON, NEIL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1a1a8ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014